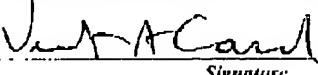



VIA FACSIMILE: 1-703-872-9306

NO. OF PAGES: 13 (including transmittal letter)

<b>AMENDMENT TRANSMITTAL LETTER (Small Entity)</b>					Docket No. <b>0545.024</b>	
Applicant(s): <b>John E. Rode</b>						
Application No. <b>10/054,253</b>	Filing Date <b>01/22/2002</b>	Examiner <b>Xuan Lan T. Nguyen</b>	Customer No. <b>23405</b>	Group Art Unit <b>3683</b>	Confirmation No. <b>3708</b>	
Invention: <b>ADJUSTABLE DISC SPRING SYSTEMS AND METHODS</b>						
<b>RECEIVED</b> <b>CENTRAL FAX CENTER</b> <b>SEP 07 2004</b>						
<u>COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS:</u>						
Transmitted herewith is an amendment in the above-identified application.						
<input type="checkbox"/> Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27						
The fee has been calculated and is transmitted as shown below.						
<b>CLAIMS AS AMENDED</b>						
	CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT	HIGHEST # PREV. PAID FOR	NUMBER EXTRA CLAIMS PRESENT	RATE	ADDITIONAL FEE	
TOTAL CLAIMS	32	32	0	x \$9.00	\$0.00	
INDEP. CLAIMS	3	3	0	x \$42.00	\$0.00	
Multiple Dependent Claims (check if applicable) <input type="checkbox"/>					\$0.00	
<b>TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEE FOR THIS AMENDMENT</b>					<b>\$0.00</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> No additional fee is required for amendment. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Please charge Deposit Account No. <b>08-1935</b> in the amount of _____ <input type="checkbox"/> A check in the amount of _____ to cover the filing fee is enclosed. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The Director is hereby authorized to charge payment of the following fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. <b>08-1935</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Any additional filing fees required under 37 C.F.R. 1.16. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR 1.17. <input type="checkbox"/> Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached. <b>WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.</b>						
 Signature <b>VICTOR A. CARDONA, ESQ.</b> Attorney for Applicant - Registration No. 44,589  <b>HESLIN ROTHENBERG FARLEY &amp; MESITI P.C.</b> 5 Columbia Circle Albany, New York 12203 Phone: 518-452-5600 Fax: 518-452-5579			Dated: September 7, 2004  <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Certificate of Facsimile Transmission</u></p> <p>I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted by facsimile on September 7, 2004 to Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22311-1450, Attn: Examiner Xuan Lan T. Nguyen, Group Art Unit 3683, at Facsimile No. (703) 872-9306.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">               Victor A. Cardona, Esq.              Registration No. 44,589              Attorney for Applicants           </p> </div>			

cc:

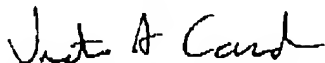
*Response Under 37 CFR § 1.116 \* -- Expedited Procedure -- Examining Group 3683  
Serial Number: 10/054,253  
Docket No. 0545.024*

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

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CENTRAL FAX CENTER  
SEP 07 2004**

**Applicant:** John E. Rode**Confirmation No.:** 3708**Serial No.:** 10/054,253**Group Art Unit:** 3683**Filed:** 01/22/2002**Examiner:** Xuan Lan T. Nguyen**Title:** ADJUSTABLE DISC SPRING SYSTEMS AND METHODS**Certificate of Facsimile Transmission**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted by facsimile on  
September 7, 2004 to Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O.  
Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450, Attn: Examiner Xuan Lan T.  
Nguyen, Group Art Unit 3683, at Facsimile No. (703) 872-9306.



Victor A. Cardona, Esq.  
Registration No. 44,589  
Attorney for Applicants

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

FAX NO.: 1-703-872-9306  
No. of Pages: 13  
(Including transmittal letter)

**RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION**

Dear Sir:

This paper is filed in response to the Final Office Action mailed on July 7, 2004, in connection with the above-identified U.S. patent application. The three-month period for response expires on October 7, 2004. Accordingly, this response is timely filed.